(b) As per prevailing practices in BSNL, Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) is in place for second line maintenance of equipment with the network supply vendors. Moreover, it has been decided to outsource the work of diesel filling in remote areas, wherever internal resources are inadequate.

(c) Enhanced efficiency in maintenance of Base Transceiver Station (BTS) sites.

Saving accounts in post offices

763. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of post offices so far as coverage of population and villages is concerned in Jharkhand;

(b) the number of postal saving accounts at present in Jharkhand;

(c) the number of these that belong to women; and

(d) the target set for opening of new saving accounts in post offices during 2009-10?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) At the present 3093 Post Offices consisting of 13 HOs, 435 SOs and. 2645 BOs an covering the population and villages in Jharkhand.

(b) Number of Savings Accounts in Jharkhand circle is 49, 93, 224 at the end of 31.10.2009.

(c) No separate information regarding accounts belonging to women is maintained.

(d) The target for opening of new Savings Accounts in Post Office in Jharkhand during 2009-10 is 25.26 Lakh.

Availability of 3G spectrum

764. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is disparity between availability of 3G spectrum across different circles;

(b) if so, in what manner Government propose to address the issue of disparity between availability of 3G spectrum across different circles;

(c) the number of operators that are planned to be awarded 3G spectrum in each of the service areas; and

(d) the manner in which Government proposes to make available more spectrum in these areas and the time-frame for making available such spectrum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir.

As per the decisions of Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM), the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has decided to auction upto 20 MHz of paired 3G spectrum in the 2.1 GHz band in the telecom service areas where 25 MHz or more paired spectrum is available One block has been allotted to BSNL/MTNL. In telecom service areas where less than 25 MHz paired spectrum is available in the 2.1 GHz band, the actual amount of available spectrum in blocks of 2 × 5 MHz per operator will be allotted.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Ministry of Communications and Information Technology and Ministry of Defence on 22nd May 2009, regarding the vacation of 3G spectrum. The Armed Forces will release the spectrum out of Defence usage, in a time bound manner as per the triggers of MoU.. Ministry of Defence has already vacated 10 MHz 3G spectrum, as per the MoU. The spectrum thus vacated by Defence also would be auctioned subject to a maximum of 4 blocks in each service area.

Transfer delay in S.B. and R.D. cases

765. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief Post Master General, Delhi has received complaints about the serious delays being caused by the Post Master, Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi-110015 in transferring S.B., R.D. cases from his area to outside the U.T. to U.P. and other States;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted to fix responsibility of the staff and the supervisors for causing delay of months for the transfer of such cases from one circle to another;

(c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken against the delinquent staff and officers; and

(d) if not, the reasons for not taking action on such delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT): (a) No complaints have been received in the office of Chief Postmaster General, Delhi Circle in 2009 regarding serious delay in transfer of SB/RD cases pertaining to Ramesh Nagar HO to other Postal Circles.

(b) to (d) Do not arise in view of above.

Post offices in Punjab

766. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sub-post offices in Punjab where all the services have been computerized and where the services have been computerized partially; and

(b) by when all such post offices are expected to be fully computerised?